THE

North-China Herald.

Vol. IX., N°. 440. SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1859. Price, Taels 15 ₱ Annum.

INTIMATIONS.

NOTICE.

ALL parties having claims against the late firm of Kupferschmid & Dato or the present firm of Kupferschmid & Co. are requested to send the same in for settlement *before the 1st of January*, 1859; and all parties indebted to the same are requested to make immediate payment to

KUPFERSCHMID & Co.

1ja Shanghai, 6th November, 1858.

NOTICE.

ALL Parties having Claims on the Estate of the undersigned are requested to send in particulars, without delay, to either of the under-mentioned who have been appointed Inspectors in liquidation.

D. BURJORJEE.

W. H. Vacher,
J. F. H. Trautmann,
J. F. Carter,
and C. D. Lalcaca.

tf Shanghai, 27th October, 1858.

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

I HAVE established in Shanghai a branch of my Firm for the transactions of a Mercantile Business, and Mr. Rahim Hemraj is authorized to sign for me by procuration.

EBRAHIM SOOMAR.

tf Shanghai, 10th December, 1858.

NOTICE.

MR. ROBERT JARVIE was admitted a Partner in our Firm, *on 1st July last.*

GILMAN & Co.,
of Canton, Shanghai & Foochow.

5mr Shanghai, 1st December, 1858.

NOTICE.

WE have established a branch of our firm at Hongkong.

Mr. Rowland Hamilton, and Mr. Hubert Marshall Murray Gray are admitted partners in our firm.

SMITH, KENNEDY & Co.

tf Shanghai, 18th November, 1858.

NOTICE.

MR. JAMES JOSEPH MACKENZIE is admitted a Partner in our Firm.

DENT & Co.

tf Hongkong, 18th October, 1858.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON AND CHINA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

SHANHAE BRANCH.

THIS Branch is now open for *General Banking Business.* Current Accounts can be opened, on which no Commission will be charged, or Interest allowed.

For Shroffing, a charge of 50 Cents per Mille will be made.

Interest

will be allowed on *Fixed Deposit* accounts, subject to,—

Three Months Notice of Withdrawal, at	5	per Cent, per Annum.
Six do., „ „ „	6	„
Twelve do., „ „ „	7	„

The Branch *purchases Bills*, and *grants Drafts*, on the London Joint Stock Bank, and the Agencies in Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Ceylon, Singapore, and Hongkong,—the *Rates* for which may be had on application.

RICHD. NEWBY,
Manager.

tf Shanghae, 16th September, 1858.

NEW OPENING OF THE CHINESE TRADE.

EAST India and China Agency, established for 10 years in the city of London. The undersigned having a thorough knowledge of the leading European markets, and nearly 20 years experience in the purchase of the English staples, suitable to India and China, would be happy to take charge of Consignments to England, and to invest the proceeds, in the purchase of any description of manufactures that may be required.

Special attention directed to the execution of orders for goods of the following leading branches of trade, viz.

Woollen Goods selected from the best manufacturers in the West of England, Yorkshire, Russia, and German houses.

Cotton Goods of the width, and substance, adapted to the Chinese wants, from the leading manufacturers at Manchester.

American Drills and Sheetings, selected from the best manufacturers, long known to the Chinese Trade.

Those parties desirous to avail themselves of the important advantages of the advertisers experience, have only to send full particulars of the goods, and of the markets they prefer, and they may depend upon their orders being executed with that care, and minute study, which cannot fail to please the tastes of the Chinese consumers.

HENRY CASSIN,
Commission Merchant,

tf 5, Leadenhall Street, London.

INSURANCES.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above named Company, at this Port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of £10,000 on Buildings or on Goods stored therein.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

tf Shanghai, 15th September, 1858.

HONGKONG MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE undersigned are prepared to grant Policies on behalf of the HONGKONG INSURANCE COMPANY, payable in *Shanghae, Hongkong, Canton, Calcutta, Manila, Bombay* and *London.*

LINDSAY & Co.

Shanghae, 1855.

INSURANCES.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned are appointed Agents for the *Underwriters* and *Marine Insurance Companies of Hamburg.*

HARKORT & Co.

tf Shanghai, 17th December, 1858.

"HAMBURG—BREMEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY."

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents in China for the above named Company are prepared to grant policies against fire at Shanghai to the extent of Mex. $35,000,—on one risk, as under:

1, On Buildings or on their contents.
2, On Ships, lying in port, or on their contents.

For further particulars apply to

Wm. PUSTAU & Co.,
Agents in Shanghai.

tf Shanghai, 1st December, 1858.

THE LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE OFFICE.

(*Established* 1843.)

THE undersigned are prepared to accept RISKS (covered by protecting Policies at Lloyd's and the various London Insurance Companies.) by the PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAMERS between *Shanghai, Canton and Hongkong, Amoy,* the *Straits, Ceylon,* the *Presidencies of India, Suez,* and *England.*

The interest in the protecting Policies is assigned to the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company, for the purpose of their becoming the Medium of Payment in the event of loss.

For Rates of Premium and other Information, apply to

M. Fischer, *Hongkong.*
E. Warden, *Shanghai.*
H. T. Marshall, *Singapore.*
T. H. Thomson, *Calcutta.*
Robert Franck, *Madras,* or
John Ritchie, *Bombay.*

JAMES HARTLEY & Co.

London, 26th June, 1858.

NETHERLANDS INDIAN MARINE AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BATAVIA.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the Company in China, are prepared to grant Insurance on Ordinary Marine Risks to Europe, United States, India, the Straits, Java, or the Colonies, at the Rates of Premium current with the Local Offices. *Policies payable in* Hongkong, Singapore, Penang, and Batavia.

TURNER & Co.

tf Shanghai, 13th February, 1857.

ALLIANCE FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF LONDON.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents in China for the above COMPANY, are prepared to accept ASSURANCE at Shanghae, as under:—

1st. On Buildings of Brick or Stone, covered with Tiles, Slates, Metal, or other Incombustible Material, when such Buildings are isolated from all others,—*Rate of Premium,* ¾ *per cent per Annum.*

And on their Contents, *at the Rate of* 1 *per cent per Annum.*

ASSURANCES for 6 Months ¾, and for 3 Months ½, *of the Annual Rate will be charged.*

ASSURANCES, for the present, will be accepted to the extent of £7,000 only on one Risk.

A Building and its Contents taken together form one Risk. Thus the above Sum may be underwritten either on a Building alone, or the Contents, alone; or, part on the Building, and part on the Contents.

No ASSURANCE is to be considered in force until the Premium be paid.

Amongst other advantages of the COMPANY, the ASSURED will be entitled to participate in the Profits after Five successive payments.

Parties applying for ASSURANCES will please send in full particulars of the Risk to be taken; any Deviation from which without the Consent of the COMPANY, will vitiate the POLICY.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents in Shanghae.

Shanghae, 1st August, 1850.

FOR SALE.

NOTICE.

MRS. MARSH begs to inform the Ladies of Hongkong and the outports, that she has just arrived from Europe with a splendid assortment of Silks and Millinery, comprising all that is most recherché and fashionable in rich Lyons Silks, Velvets and Ribbons, Real and Imitation Valenciennes and Brussells Laces. A rich assortment of Lingerie Mantillas in Velvet, Silk, Lace, and Cloth, carefully selected from one of the most fashionable Houses in Paris. Barege, Gauze, Tulle, and Tarlatane Robes in great variety of all the latest designs. Parasols, Fans, Flowers, Cambric Hankerchiefs, Colored Kid Gloves, from Jouvin. Boots and shoes, from Viault Este. Rich Berlin Patterns partly Worked, Beads and Bugles, Gold and Coloured Braids, &c., &c., &c., and a great variety of goods too numerous to mention in an advertisement, which will be open for inspection on Monday the 15th instant.

Mrs. Marsh begs to remind Ladies that all these goods have been carefully selected by herself, from some of the best houses in Paris, Lyons, and London, and from the long experience she has had in China, she flatters herself that an inspection of her Show Rooms will give satisfaction.

1ja Hongkong, 12th November, 1858.

FOR SALE.

CLARET (five qualities); Ermitage 1842; Champagne (two qualities); Sparkling St. Péray; Muscat de Frontignan; Malaga; Pale Brandy; Brown do.; and Kirschwasser, &c., &c.

Great assortment of sweet Liqueurs.

Best salad Oil.

All in 1 doz. Cases.

X. SALABELLE & Cie.
Tchang-fou, North Gate Street corner of Bridge Street.

tf Shanghai, August 6th, 1858.

FOR SALE.

"PERUVIAN SYRUP"

or

PROTECTED SOLUTION OF PROTOXIDE OF IRON.

THE undersigned have for sale the above valuable medicine, and can highly recommend it as a good cure for diseases of the *Blood, Dyspepsia* or *General Debility.*

FRAZAR & Co.,
Bridge Street two doors from the Yang-king-pang Creek.

tf Shanghai, 25th December, 1858.

NEW CALIFORNIA POTATOES.

A FINE lot of large sized California Potatoes just received by Ship *Grace Darling.*

For sale in lots to suit purchasers.

FRAZAR & Co.,
Bridge Street two doors from the Yang-king-pang Creek.

o Shanghai, 25th December, 1858.

FOR SALE.

TABLES shewing the Exchange given by Bullion Remittances, from Shanghai to India.

Also,

Tables shewing the value in Shanghai, of Bar Silver, Mexican Dollars, and Rupees, as compared with rates ruling in London, (of the last, twenty copies only, remain on hand).

Price of each Set, Tls. 2 per Copy.

Apply to the *North-China Herald* Office.

tf Shanghai, 27th September, 1858.

FOR SALE.

TABLES showing Cost of Tea laid down in England and America.—Compiled by P. Loureiro.

Price $3 Mex. each.

Apply to the *North-China Herald* office.

tf Shanghai, 23d September, 1858.

FOR SALE.

SPARKLING Moselle, and Hock.
Giesler's Champagne, Sherry, and Claret.
Old Sherry, and Old Port.

SMITH, KENNEDY & Co.

tf Shanghai, 24th August, 1858.

FOR SALE.

Price One Tael per Copy.

JOURNAL OF THE SHANGHAI LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY,

at

Fogg & Co.; Hall & Holtz;

and

Kupferschmid & Co.

tf Shanghai, 6th August, 1858.

BOOKS ON SALE.

at H. Fogg & Co.

	price per copy.
WILLIAMS' Dictionary of the Chinese language, ………	$7.00
Do. Commercial Guide, ………	3.00
The same with map of China,	3.50
Do. Map of China, Mounted ….	2.00
Do. „ „ Pocket,……	1.00
Do. Middle Kingdom, 2 vols. with a Map.	

tf Shanghai, 7th April, 1858.

WORKS ON SALE.

At the London Mission Printing Office,

Shanghae.

TO be had also at the Office of the *North-China Herald*—

Medhurst's STATE and PROSPECTS of CHINA. ………	*Tls.*2.0.0
FOKIEN or AMOY DICTIONARY. 1 vol. 4to.………	10.0.0
CHINESE and ENGLISH DICTIONARY, 2 vols. 8vo.………	10.0.0
ENGLISH and CHINESE DICTIONARY, 2 vols. 8vo.………	10.0.0
ENGLISH and JAPANESE VOCABULARY, 1 vol. 8vo.………	2.0.0
COREAN and ENGLISH VOCABULARY, 1 vol. 8vo.………	2.0.0
FORMOSAN and ENGLISH VOCABULARY, 1 vol. 12mo.………	1.0.0
ANCIENT CHINA, 1 vol. 8vo., ….	2.0.0
THEOLOGY of the CHINESE,….	1.5.0
THE TRUE MEANING of the word *SHIN*, or "SPIRIT,"………	0.5.0
GLANCE at the INTERIOR of CHINA,………	1.0.0
THE CHINAMAN ABROAD, or a Desultory Account of the Malayan Archipelago, by *Ong-t'hae-hae,*	0.5.0
ON THE SILK MANUFACTURE, & CULTIVATION of the MULBERRY, ………	0.7.5
GENERAL DESCRIPTION of SHANGHAE and its Environs,..	1.0.0
NARRATIVE of a MISSION to the JEWS at Kae-fung Foo ………	0.5.0
FAC-SIMILES of 4 ancient Hebrew Manuscripts, from the Synagogue at Kae-fung Foo.………	1.0.0
NOTIONS of the CHINESE concerning GOD and SPIRITS,………	2.0.0
GRAMMAR of the SHANGHAE DIALECT, ………	2.0.0
MEMOIRS of the Life and Labours of Dr. Morrison,………	3.0.0
CHINESE PHONETIC VOCABULARY,—1 Rupee each, or 3 copies for ………	1.0.0
ÆSOP'S FABLES, in Chinese and English,………	2.0.0
GRAMMAR of the Mandarin Colloquial Dialect of the Chinese language. ………	2.0.0

FOR SALE,

At the North-China Herald Office,

BILLS OF LADING per Ship.
BILLS OF EXCHANGE, in Book.
SHIPPING ORDERS, in Book.
CHARTER PARTIES.
POWERS OF ATTORNEY, and WILLS.
PROTESTS, English and American.
COMPRADOR CHECK BOOKS.
Blank Forms of Custom-house PERMITS for Shipping and Landing Goods.

PUBLIC SALE.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

TO be disposed of by Public Auction, on or before *January 10th,* 1859, at Foochow.

The brick and stone built House now occupied by the undersigned as a Store, at Foochow. The House is nearly new and was built under the supervision of a foreigner, and is located in a desirable situation for either a Dwelling House, Store or Godown, has a good water frontage and is easy of access from both the Street and River.

The above will be sold with the Ground and Outhouses.

Plans can be seen and full particulars had by applying to

KUPFERSCHMID & Co.,
Shanghai & Foochow.

8ja Shanghai, 20th December, 1858.

HOUSES & LAND.

TO LET.

THE Dwelling Houses, and Godowns at present occupied by Messrs. Moncreiff, Grove & Co., either together or separately; entry to the Godowns from *1st October,* and to the Dwelling Houses from *1st January.*

For particulars apply to

TURNER & Co.

tf Shanghai, 31st August, 1858.

AT FOOCHOW, PAGODA ANCHORAGE.

TO BE DISPOSED OF

A DESIRABLE Location including a comfortable Bungalow, Furniture, good stock of Genuine Medicines and a good Medical Practice, at present worth from 4 *a* 5,000 Dollars per annum.

For particulars apply to

R. A. WARDELL.

tf Shanghai, 2d July, 1858.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE.

A POSTSCRIPT to the *North-China Herald* is published for transmission to Hongkong and Chinese ports by every favorable opportunity. It contains a *precis* of News. Daily quotations of Exchange and Opium, Arrivals, Clearances, and Departures of Vessels, from the date of the last previous publication until the latest hour.

Price 1 Mex: Dollar per month, payable Quarterly

To Hongkong Subscribers to the *Daily Shipping and Commercial News,* Free.

Subscriptions received at this Office and by Messrs. McEwen & Co., Hongkong.

tf Shanghai, 10th November, 1858.

THE SHANGHAE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

HAS been enlarged, and can accommodate Private Patients with comfort.

The terms are,

For Private Room, ….	Tls. 2.0.0	a day.
„ Officers do. ….	„ 1.5.0	„
„ General Wards,….	„ 1.0.0	„

Washing One Tael per month extra.

The Lowest charge is Seven Taels.

F. C. SIBBALD, M.D., *Surgeon.*
Mr. NEWMAN, *Apothecary.*

☞ The Dispensary is well stocked with Medicine, which may be had on application to the Apothecary.

tf Shanghai, July 17th, 1857.

H. FOGG & CO.,

SHIP CHANDLERS, STOREKEEPERS,
GENERAL AGENTS, AND
AUCTIONEERS.
SHANGHAE.

HALL & HOLTZ,

SHIP CHANDLERS, STOREKEEPERS
AND BAKERS,
BREAD AND BISCUITS.
SHANGHAE.

KIN-TEE-YUEN,

CAN SUPPLY PARTIES WITH SILKS OF
EVERY DESCRIPTION;
GAUZES OF NEWEST PATTERNS;
SHAWLS, and APRONS;
AND EMBROIDERED WORK OF THE
LAST FASHIONS,
AT UNUSUALLY LOW PRICES.
TSING-KEE SHOP,
Near the French Consulate.
Shanghai, 1st September, 1855.

SAEKEE & CO.,

Yang-king-pang Street, three doors from Messrs. H. Fogg & Co.

HAS FOR SALE AT LOW PRICES,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Silks, Satins, new pattern Gauzes, Crapes, Embroideries, Nankeens, Sarsnets, Pongees and every description of Silk Piece-goods of Soo-chow Manufacture.

ALSO,

Lacqueredware, Grass Cloth, Ivory Carvings, &c., &c., &c.

AND,

Champagne and other Wines.

ALGAR & STREET,

Colonial Newspaper & Commission Agents.

THE COLONIAL PRESS
SUPPLIED WITH
NEWSPAPERS, BOOKS, TYPE, INK,
PRESSES, CORRESPONDENT'S
LETTERS.
And any EUROPEAN GOODS,
on London Terms.

COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS received at this Office are regularly filed for the inspection of Advertisers and the Public.

11, Clement's Lane,
Lombard Street, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PIANO FORTES.

TUNED, and LESSONS given at moderate charges. Address D. D. at Mr. W. H. Moore's, *Hoong Kow.*

1ja Shanghai, 10th December, 1858.

McKENZIE & CO.,

Ship Chandlers, Storekeepers,
General Agents and Provisioners.
NEAR THE FRENCH CONSULATE
SHANGHAI.

ALEX. BIRD,

Auctioneer and Shipchandler.
corner of
Bridge Street and Park Lane.

J. D. MUGFORD,

APOTHECARY.
French Bund, Shanghai.

N.B.—A supply of fresh Medicines always on hand. Ship's Medicine Chests supplied and refitted on the shortest notice and most moderate terms.

ABRAHAM HOWARD,

Ship Broker & General Commission Agent,
SHANGHAE.
Church Street, second door North of
North Gate Street.
Shanghae, 16th August, 1858.

G. H. PINDER & CO.,

Hydraulic & Mechanical Engineers,
Shipwrights, &c., &c.
Coppersmith's & Blacksmith's work, and Brass casting promptly executed.
NEAR THE FIRST DRY DOCK.
HONGKUE.

F. P. WEBB,

GENERAL AUCTIONEER
AND COMMISSION AGENT.
SHANGHAE.
1st June, 1858.

J. S. BARON,

Bread and Biscuit Baker,
Confectioner and Pastry Cook.
Shanghai.

China Flour Kiln-Dried and put up in Barrels at a moderate rate.

Biscuits Re-Fired.

Premises opposite the French Consulate next Door to Messrs. McKenzie & Co.

N. B.—*Always on hand all kinds of Fancy Lemon, Ginger, and Butter Biscuits, &c.*

JULIUS TOBLER,

Chronometer, Watch & Clock-maker.
Yang-king-pang,
Smith's Bridge.
Shanghai.

Nautical Instruments re-adjusted. Chronometers rated by most accurate Transit Observations.

The Transit instrument has been adjusted and found correct by the Astronomer of the Imperial Observatory at Venice,—

J. von Muller,

during the stay of the Austrian Frigate *Novara* at this port.

10ja Shanghai, 18th August, 1858.

APPETITE AND DIGESTION IMPROVED

LEA & PERRINS' CELEBRATED WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE imparts the most exquisite relish to every variety of Dish, and, by its tonic and invigorating properties, enables the Stomach to perfectly digest the food. The habitual use of this Sauce has been found most conducive to health.

Sold by the principal dealers in Sauces universally. Wholesale and for exportation by the Proprietors, Lea & Perrins, 68, Broad Street, Worcester, and 19, Fenchurch Street, London. Also by Crosse & Blackwell, and other Oilmen and Merchants, London.

ADVERTISEMENT.

R. T. PRITCHETT, RIFLE, GUN, and SWORD MANUFACTURER to Her Majesty's War Department and the Hon. East India Company, begs to call the attention of Officers and Gentlemen abroad to the sound quality and efficiency of the Arms he produces, both for Military purposes and the Sports of the Field. Every GUN sold by R. T. Pritchett is manufactured on the premises, and every RIFLE is bored, rifled, and shot under his personal superintendence. For both large or small bore the PRITCHETT BULLET, as adopted by H. M. Government, without cup or plug, is found most serviceable—very numerous testimonials having been received of its range and truth of flight. To the manufacture of SWORDS also, great attention is paid, the most efficient proof of strength and spring being applied, a guarantee given of the quality of the blade, which is uniformly tested by powerful machinery in the presence of the purchaser, before made up.

86, St. James's-street London.

Deane & Son's (late Deane & Adams),
PATENT REVOLVERS,
with latest improvements,
and full Sets of Ammunition.
In Cases completely fitted.
North-China Herald Office.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

THE Partnership heretofore existing between GUSTAV CHRISTIAN SCHWABE, and FREDERICK BOWER, under the firm of G. C. SCHWABE & Co. is this day dissolved by lapse of time.

All outstanding accounts will be liquidated by their successors Messrs. BOWER, HANBURY & Co.

15ja Shanghai, 31st December, 1858.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned have entered into Partnership as *Merchants and Commission Agents*, under the firm of BOWER, HANBURY & Co., and will continue the business hitherto conducted by Messrs. G. C. SCHWABE & Co. at this Port.

FREDERICK BOWER.
THOMAS HANBURY.

15ja Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF LIVERPOOL.

CAPITAL TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

Trustees,
JOHN SHAW LEIGH, Esq. | JOHN NAYLOR, Esq.
CHARLES TURNER, Esq., *Chairman.*

THE Company is prepared to grant Policies of Insurance against Fire to the extent of £10,000 on any one Building or its contents.

The Policies of the Company are NOT SUSPENDED in the event of invasion or insurrection.

Premiums are payable in the Bills of any of the Local Banks or in other approved Paper.

BOWER, HANBURY & Co.,
Agents for Shanghai.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. WILLIAM BROUGHALL in Shanghai having terminated on the 31st ulto. I shall, for the future, carry on the Business of Public Silk Inspector in my own name.

J. F. CARTER.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

NOTICE.

THE business heretofore conducted in China under the style of BLENKIN, RAWSON & Co., was closed on *the 31st ultimo.* MR. JAMES DOW will sign the name of the firm in liquidation.

T. S. RAWSON.
S. RAWSON.
WILLIAM KAY,
By their Attorney. W. BLENKIN.
JAMES DOW.
W. THORBURN.
W. M. NORTON.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned beg to notify that in consequence of the Death of Mr. TARTARIN the business hitherto conducted by LEGRAND, TARTARIN & CIE., will from this date be carried on under the firm of

LEGRAND, FRERES & CIE.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

FRAZAR & Co.,

Commission Merchants, Ship Chandlers and Storekeepers.

BRIDGE STREET, back of H. FOGG & Co.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

NOTICE.

MR. HASSUMBHOY PARPIA is about to leave this place. The business of our Firm will be henceforward conducted by Mr. MERALLYBHOY MAHOMED who is authorized to sign our Firm by procuration.

KESSOWJEE SEWJEE & Co.

tf Shanghai, 31st December, 1858.

NOTICE.

HAVING disposed of the Stock in Trade and Good-will of my business *from the 1st December last*, the Firm of P. F. RICHARDS & Co. or RICHARDS & Co. ceased from that date.

P. F. RICHARDS,
Sole Partner.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

NOTICE.

MESSRS. KNOOP & Co. beg leave to intimate that they have commenced business as *Shipchandlers and General Merchants* in the premises lately occupied by Messrs. RICHARDS & Co.; and hope by strict attention to business to secure a share of the custom of Vessels coming to this Port, and also of the Foreign Community.

Mr. FRANZ KNOOP is authorized to sign for the Firm per procuration.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

MADAME WRIGHT,

MAGAZIN DES MODES.

BARIRER ROAD, SHANGHAI.

NOTICE.

ALL parties having Claims against GEO. MOTTLEY, Esq., are requested to send in their accounts, and all parties Indebted to him, are requested to make immediate payment to

FREDK. P. WEBB.

tf Shanghai, 18th December, 1858.

LEGRAND, FRERES & CIE.

BEG to announce that they are prepared to offer for sale a large well selected assortment of Watches, Alarm Time Pieces, Clock-movements, Stereoscopes, Perfumery and Fancy Goods, &c., &c., &c.

Photographic Portraits taken and set in Frames of different Styles, at moderate prices.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

TO LET.

THE Dwelling House with large Godown attached, (together or separately), formerly known as *Wha-Shing* and lately occupied by Messrs. CHAMPTONS, HANBURY & Co.

Also the House and Godown next to *Wha-Shing*, lately occupied by Messrs. SALABELLE & Cie. *For particulars apply to*

T. J. BIRDSEYE.

tf Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

TO be sold on the premises of the undersigned on *Tuesday next, the 4th instant*, at 11 o'clock A.M.

The following Goods ex *Woodville*. Preserved Milk, Oxtail Soup and Bouilli, Mock Turtle, and Mulligatawny Soups.

Jams and Jellies, Green Peas, Candied Lemon Peel and Citron, Assorted Herbs, Arrowroot, Maccaroni and Vermicelli, Oatmeal, Cumberland and York Hams, Sardines, Raisins, Currants, Berkeley and Cheddar Cheeses.

Also 40 casks Beer.

In lots to suit Purchasers.

H. FOGG & Co.,
Auctioneers.

o Shanghai, 1st January, 1859.

THE
North-China Herald.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1859.

NOTICE.—The hours of DIVINE SERVICE in TRINITY CHURCH, are on Sundays, at 11 A.M. and 3 P.M.

Bibles, (in various languages), Prayer Books, and Hymn Books, can be obtained by application to the Chaplain, or of Mr. WRIGHT, the *Sexton.*

JOHN HOBSON, *Chaplain.*

NOTICE.—PUBLIC WORSHIP is held in the LONDON MISSION CHAPEL, every Sunday, at half past nine A.M., and at six P.M.

NOTICE.—DIVINE SERVICE is held in the Chapel of the American Episcopal Mission at *Hoong Kow*, every Sunday Evening at 7 o'clock

NOTICE.—SEAMEN'S CHURCH. Services in the morning at 11 o'clock, and in the afternoon at 3 o'clock.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No communications can be received, unless accompanied by the real name and address of the author, which will be kept private if desired.

We reserve to ourselves the prerogative of refusing, without comment, such articles as we may not be disposed to admit.

LATEST DATES.

England,	Oct. 25	Singapore,	Nov. 30
Bombay,	Nov. 16	Hongkong,	Dec. 12
Calcutta,	Nov. —	New York,	Oct. 14
Galle,	Nov. 21		

Latest dates in England from China,—

Hongkong, 24 Aug. { Received per Post,—
Shanghai, 14 Aug. { *vid* Marseilles....15 Oct.
{ *vid* Southampton 21 Oct.

MAIL of 9th Nov. from London *vid* Marseilles due in Hongkong, Dec. 25th—Shanghai, Jany. 3d. Last year it was received Jany. 3d per *Yang-tsze.*

DIED.—At Shanghai, on the 28th December, 1858, JOHN BRADBURY, aged 28 years.

COMPARISON OF OBSERVATIONS,

taken by

A SELF REGISTERING THERMOMETER *in the open air, in a shaded situation, at Shanghai,—the Maximum by day, and the Minimum at night.*

FOR THE WEEK.

	Ending 31st Dec., 1858.		*Ending 31st Dec., 1857.*	
	Max.	*Min.*	*Max.*	*Min.*
21.—	50	42	48	42
25,—	47	41	49	41
26,—	46	42	53	40
27,—	49	44	44	33
28,—	46	40	45	31
29,—	44	37	45	32
30,—	46	36	47	33
31,—	43	35	53	38

To be continued weekly.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

(Friday Evening.)

EXCHANGE.

On London, Bank Bills, 6 m/s. 6s. 6½*d.*, First class Credits, 6s. 7*d.* per Tl., nominal. *On Calcutta* and *Bombay*, Bank Bills 3 d/s. Rs. 308 per 100 Tls., nominal. *On Hongkong*, 15 d/s. 28 ‰ discount, nominal.

OPIUM.

	Malwa Tls.	*New Patna* Tls.	*Old Patna* Tls.
Dec. 25	460 —	522 a 528	502 —
„ 27	460 —	520 a 525	502 —
„ 28	460 —	518 a 525	502 —
„ 29	460 —	515 a 525	500 —
„ 30	460 —	515 a 525	500 —
„ 31	455 —	512 a 523	500 —

THE next outward mail for Europe, &c., is appointed to leave here on the 7th and Hongkong on the 15th inst. It should arrive in England on the 27th of Feby. (not the 7th as appeared by typographical error in our last,) and answers be received on or about the 1st of May.

IT is the custom with Journalists, particularly in Colonies, in the first number of a New Year to take a Review of that just past, as relates to local politics, trade and social progress. We are obliged to defer that task until our next issue; we cannot, however, take leave of the year 1858 and enter upon its successor without offering to our readers the usual compliments, and our best wishes for such prosperous times as will shorten the number of the years they may have to remain away from home, where the Wassail bowl and snap dragon, the Yule Clog, Christmas and Misletoe are types of the good English customs of the olden time, the recollection of which has a charm for all Anglo-Saxons.

THE following appeared in our *Daily* Paper this morning; not having received any further news we repeat it here, *verbatim.* Should any important intelligence reach us we will publish an extra.

H. M. Officiating Consul Harvey received yesterday a note from His Excellency See, the Intendant of Circuit, informing him that a despatch had just been received at Shanghai, from Han-kow, in Hoo-pih, in which the Taoutai is made acquainted with the arrival, at Han-kow on the 6th December of His Excellency the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, H. M. Plenipotentiary.

His Lordship had had an interview with the Governor-general of the Province at which there was the greatest harmony.

On the 12th Dec. the Earl of Elgin started from Han-kow on his return, and may be expected any hour at Shanghai.

WE find that we have inadvertently given circulation to a statement relative to the assistance recently afforded by H. M. S. *Nimrod* to the Imperial Steam Corvette *La Place*, when on shore at Tae Shan which is not quite accurate in point of fact, and which is calculated to depreciate the exertions made by M. de Kergeju, his officers and crew by conveying the impression that the whole credit of saving the *La Place* was due to the *Nimrod.*

We take the earliest opportunity of correcting it.

We are now enabled to state on the best authority, that before the arrival of H. M. S. *Nimrod* at Tae Shan, the *La Place* having been lightened of a considerable portion of her heavy stores which were placed in junks, had already been moved on the morning of the 2d ultimo by her own efforts about one and a half times her own length; every preparation being made to renew the attempt at the approaching high tide. After the arrival of the *Nimrod* on the 2d ultimo, a joint effort was made that night with the assistance of *Nimrod's* steam to heave her off at high water. The attempt to float her was not successful although the ship was evidently moved a few yards; another attempt was made on board the *La Place* at the next morning's flood the 3d ultimo which was happily crowned with success. The vessel was then towed out by her consort into deep water and security.

CONSULAR COURT.

AT a Court held at H. B. M. Consulate before F. Harvey, Esq., H. M. Officiating Consul, and two assessors, on the 29th ultimo, Charles Smith, seaman on board the *Versailles* was charged with having stabbed his shipmate Richard Parkyn, in two places in the back thereby inflicting a dangerous wound.

The prisoner, in his defence, pleaded "Drunkenness."

The Court after carefully considering the evidence and viewing the dastardly nature of the act committed by the prisoner in using a knife against one of his shipmates, without provocation, sentenced him to 12 months imprisonment in Hongkong Jail, with hard labour.

THE North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society held its regular Monthly Meeting at the Shanghai Library on Thursday evening, Dec. 23d, 1858.

The Rev. John Hobson was elected a Member of the Society.

This being the first general meeting held since the affiliation of the Shanghai Literary and Scientific Society with the Royal Asiatic Society, the President, after a few remarks on the subject, presented a Paper, giving a detailed statement of several Asiatic Societies and other similar institutions, with their objects and the dates of their establishment: this was referred to the Council for publication in the Journal.

A paper was read "On the Study of the Natural Sciences in Japan," communicated by Dr. Meerdervoort of Nagasaki. It appears that Dr. M. was attached to the Military and Scientific Corps which has been sent to Japan by the Dutch Government, (at the request of the Japanese themselves,) and has occupied himself in teaching Physics, Chemistry, Anatomy, Physiology and Desmology. He has found in the Japanese students, placed under his care by the Government at Yedo and also by the Provincial Princes, a class of scholars of the most interesting character. The avidity with which they devote themselves to the acquisition of practical science is remarkable and encouraging. Not only so, but some of the neighbouring Princes themselves exhibit a perfect devotion to the improvement of manufactures, ship-building, fortification, &c. Especially was this the case with the late Prince of *Satsuma*, whose chief city, *Kagosima*, is the seat of iron-foundries, glass-houses, porcelain-factories, &c., the extent and perfection of which are said to be truly surprising.

Immense difficulty is felt at present in teaching the Japanese in the higher departments, because of their non-acquaintance with arithmetic and algebra, and their imperfect knowledge of any European language; but these, and other impediments, are beginning to disappear; and there is every reason to expect that among this people will be found devoted students of the sciences, specially of those which have an immediate application to manufactures and the arts.

Dr. Macgowan exhibited two typographical specimens—one a Singing book in the Ningpo dialect, alphabetized by the Rev. E. B. Inslee; the other some Chinese moveable type, cast by the late Commissioner Lin at Canton. The font consists of 220,000 characters. The types are of brass cast in clay. Instead of a "body" the face rests upon a thin plate. They are "set" in grooved plates and held in place by screws.

Dr. Macgowan's Paper, on the "Cosmical Phenomena observed at Shanghai during the past Thousand Years," was founded on the calamitous occurrences recorded in the *Sungkiang* and *Shanghai* Topographies. The first noted, an earthquake, occurred in the early part of the fifth century of our era. After giving an account of the action of subterranean forces, the Paper described several such phenomena, styled by the Chinese—"three tides in one day." A long list of meteorological observations then followed—the fall of aerolites, sand, blood, ink, and of sweet dew—with instances of parhelia, lunar rainbows and mirage—of typhoons, freshets and inundations—of notable falls of snow and hail,—together with notices of remarkable seasons. Next an account of anomalies observed in the vegetable kingdom, and finally a number of marvels found in animated nature. Under this head were recorded a number of animal and human monstrosities, visitations of locusts, epidemics, famines, and panics, forming altogether a useful contribution to our knowledge of this region.

A vote of thanks was unanimously recorded to Drs. Meerdervoort and Macgowan for their interesting Papers.

After considerable discussion it was unanimously resolved, that the Council of this Society, having the power to invite Ladies to the general Meetings, they be requested to exercise the same on all suitable occasions.

SHANGHAI AMUSEMENTS.

THIS is a season peculiarly associated in the English mind with festivity and amusement. It is therefore gratifying to observe that in Shanghai the roast beef and plum pudding elements of the Anglo-Saxon character are strongly developed; and certainly they have been put into severe exercise during the past week. The noble *baron* and luscious *saddle* have made their appearance with a weight and in a style, worthy of the London Tavern itself.

But dinners like diners do not last for ever, nor do Turkeys come up by *every* steamer from Hongkong; too much pudding also will choke a Shanghai resident, as well as the lower class of creatures, and dyspeptic symptoms are the too frequent concomitants of "Christmas week;" let us therefore cast about for other means of enlivening the monotony of our life here. Very opportunely the information reaches us that the Amateur Theatrical Corps are again waking into life and activity. We much feared, when last November we saw the theatre of the corps sold by Public Auction, and when a few days afterwards we saw the mangled remains of Palaces and Cottages, of Bombastes' wood and Captain Copp's tavern lying in sad ruin in the open air, that the Dramatic prospects for the coming season were shadowy indeed, and that one of the most agreeable episodes in our social life here, had been witnessed for the last time; that in short the last play had been played, the curtain been dropped and the lamps finally extinguished. Glad are we to find that such is not to prove the case; we learn that a new building has been chosen, and that the necessary alterations are rapidly approaching completion. The House will be rather larger than the old one, but will in most other particulars greatly resemble it. The heavy expenses which must have been incurred in the removal and renovation, will no doubt demand the adoption of a simple and economical style of decoration and general arrangement, but we know enough of the artistic taste which has hitherto been displayed, to feel sure that a graceful and creditable result will be obtained.

We hear that the first performance is likely to take place towards the close of this month, and we hope to welcome *all* those whose exertions last season gave to us so much pleasure and to the entertainments so great an *éclat.*

CHRISTMAS AFLOAT.

Dulce est desipere in loco.

THE rejoicings afloat, on the 25th ulto., were, as usual, of rather a demonstrative nature, and our naval friends made quite a grand display. The yards and trucks of H. M. Ships in harbour were decorated with choice exotics, including trees of the camellia and azalea reared at an *enormous* expense *expressly for this occasion* by one of our noble merchant princes, who, a citizen of the Great Republic, deserves the respect of every Briton for this generous mark of affection for the mother country. We called on board the *Highflyer* at noon, to see how *Jack* enjoyed himself, and were delighted with our visit. The lower deck was most tastefully arranged and ornamented; each mess table being a perfect bower of plants, while every square inch of space that was not occupied by a goose or plum pudding, contained a flag, garland, or poetical inscription. Some of the latter were good specimens of nautical doggerel, chiefly eulogistic of the *Highflyer* or her captain. Amongst others were the following:—

No. 13 Mess.

Welcome! merry Christmas
Together, we have seen two
And, welcome bonny Charlie
By the whole of the Ship's Crew.

And, a welcome to our Officers
As many as can come
And when they have had their fill
We'll drink their health's in Rum.

Sailors oft can scantly shift
To find a dinner plain and hearty
But, merry Christmas now has come
We'll have a jovial feasting party.

(Desunt cætera.)

No. 5 Mess.

VIVE LE CAPITANE SHADWELL.

Union { Prince of Wales's } *Ensign*
V. { Crest & Motto } R.

Union.—Captain Shadwell's Crest—*Ensign,*
&
Motto.

"Loyal au Mort."

Two Happy Christmas's we have spent
And hope to spend two more,
And when we go home, we hope to find
Our Old Gent made a Commodore.

"DIEU ET MON DROIT."

The Bee-Hive.—By Jeremy Didler.

(Bee-Hive encircled by a wreath.)

In this Hive, we're all alive
Good liquor makes us funny,
If you are dry, step in and try,
The flavour of our Honey.

THE BOWER SALOON.

Good Accommodations.

Well Illuminated by a Purser's Dip.

No. 16 Mess.

The Sailors Joy.—By Old Ruff.

(Representing a Sailor with a bottle in one hand and a glass in the other.)

Underneath.

May Jack never be in a gale so hard, as to prevent him enjoying is glass.

No. 14 Mess.

Labour in Vain.

We've rubbed and scrubbed for two long years
We expect to scrub two more;
And if the colored gentleman does not come white
We'll not scrub him, any more.

(This allusion is to one of the Mess-mates, a man of colour born at Jamaica.)

No. 10 Mess.

The Turnpike Gate.—By Billy Brown.

This Gate hangs well
And hinders none
Refresh and pay
And travel on.

With their characteristic hospitality Jack pressed all the visitors to share the good cheer in the form of large *slabs* of pudding and kits of grog; and, we are told, mirth and jollity reigned until a late hour.

PROBABLY few persons in Shanghai and nearly as few in Hongkong were aware of the diabolical scheme concerted for the destruction of a large portion of the foreign residents in that colony until the account appeared in the English papers. The following is taken from *the Atlas* and we are told its truth is attested by persons who were in the secret, which for obvious reasons, was not at the time made publicly known.

CHINESE GUNPOWDER PLOT.

The Bishop of Victoria, in a private letter published by the *Record*, writes from Hongkong: "An atrocious gunpowder plot to blow up the English community while assembled for Divine service in the cathedral is among the recent attempts planned at a distance, and happily frustrated by the fidelity of a native Christian. As the last mail steamer for England was leaving the harbour, the Rev. W. Chalmers, of the London Missionary Society, called upon the governor and myself to communicate the details of the plot just divulged to one of his native preachers by our Chinese sexton, the native Christian to whom I first alluded. This man obtained permission from me to go to his native home to escape punishment from the mandarins. He belonged to a place called Shunbak. On his arrival there he was ordered by the local '*gentry and scholars*' to go to another place to await orders. He had implicitly to obey. At the second locality he was told to return and avail himself of the opportunities of his situation as a sexton to lay a train and destroy the English community in the cathedral. He objected that he had not the requisite courage. He was then ordered to return to Hongkong, and there await the arrival of four Braves, whom he was to admit during the night into the church, and to conceal them in the masking of the plot. The plan was to have laid three or four peculs (a pecul is about a hundredweight avoirdupois) of gunpowder under the hollow wooden platform extending over the whole area on which the sittings are raised, and then to light a slow match or fusee so as to time the explosion according to the hour of assembling for service. The Chinese are so expert in slow matches, that they commonly use an expedient of this kind for dividing the several hours and watches in their military guard-houses, according to the length of the parts consumed. The governor placed Mr. Chalmers in communication, with Mr. Caldwell, the Government protector of the Chinese, who, after long investigation, being perfectly acquainted with Chinese, reported the truthfulness of the informant, and the necessity for taking remedial measures. It was deemed inadmissible to let the English community become acquainted with what might have caused a needless panic and unwillingness to come to the church. The governor, the general, the heads of police, and myself, took consultation. The Chinese sexton himself could be induced by no offers of pecuniary reward to remain at his post and to give up the Braves who should arrive to carry out the plan. He is now in concealment in a small village in another part of the island. His place was filled by another during his absence; and thus, having given us timely notice of the plot, he hopes also to secure his own exemption from persecution. Scarcely an Englishman is aware of the danger on the brink of which we were unconsciously reposing in security. And all that an initiated person can discover of change in the cathedral as a preventive measure is that a part of the garrison now come with their side-arms to the cathedral in the morning, whereas formerly they all came in the afternoon; and two or three extra European policemen may be seen quietly exploring the localities of the edifice, and watching every suspicious looking Chinaman who comes near the church. All who know the whole case entertain no doubt as to the reality of the plan, and feel that we have been mercifully spared from what has all the [illegible], but all the atrocity also, of a genuine wholesale Chinese system of destruction."—*From the Atlas for India*, Oct. 25.

JANUARY.

January derives its name from Janus, a deity represented by the Romans with two faces, because he was acquainted with past and future events. He presided over the beginning of every thing, he opened the year and seasons, and hence the first month of the year was called after him.

The Anglo-Saxons called this month *Giuli aftera* signifying the second *Giul or Yale*. The feast of Thor, was called *giul* from *iol, or ol* which signified *Ale*; and is now corrupted into *yule*, *i. e.* Christmas.

Was-hail and *Drinc-heil* were the usual ancient phrases of quaffing among the English, synonymous with the "Come here's to you" and "I'll pledge you" of recent days.

It was the custom, in the time of our forefathers, for merchants and tradesmen to commence their new account books with the motto "Laus Deo."

Twelfth Day, or Christmas day, old style, falls on the 6th of January and is still kept as the festival of the Nativity in some countries; as it was in England until Sept. 3, 1752, when the new style was adopted in England, by leaving out 11 days in the Julian Calendar, so as to make it agree with the Gregorian.

THE WEATHER.

December. The experience of the month just past does not corroborate the assertion in the Shanghai Almanac, based on the observations of *several years*, that this is the driest month of the year. It has been a wet, very wet month. The fine weather we had enjoyed for nearly two months broke up on the 5th and rain has fallen on sixteen days since; latterly steady soaking rain, with short intermission, reducing our mud-made roads to the consistency of Christmas pudding before boiled.

The thermometer ranged, in the day between 48 and 57; at night between 31 and 48. There was a slight frost in the night of the 15th. Wind variable between S.E. and North and raw disagreeable weather during the greater part of the month.

Distances *measured with a* Perambulator.

From Wills's Bridge, (British Consulate Gate) by the Coolie road, to Woosung anchorage (French Coal Godown) 8 miles, 7 furlongs, and 20 poles.

(By water it is estimated to be 13 to 14 miles.)

From the French Coal Godown, along the Bund, to the creek at Woosung town, 1 mile 2 furlongs.

(The Consular Flag staff at Shanghai is 8.8 miles due South, nearly, of the Marks at Woosung *i. e.* 8 miles, 6 furlongs, 16 poles as the crow flies.)

To the Editor of the

North-China Herald.

Sir,—Allow me to congratulate you, on having such contributors as *A Casual Visitor*, *City Correspondent*, and others, if less "lengthy," not less spicy: and allow me also, through your columns, to ask said contributors, and others not named, and your veteran self, if you please, to give your Readers more of the descriptive. You speak of Shanghai as the Model Foreign Settlement; and one of your anonymous contributors talks of its Local Institutions; and your C. C. writes about the Sealed City; and so forth.

Now, Sir, your Readers, to a man, would like more ample descriptions. There is power enough, both on the throne and behind the throne, to marshal the light columns of your weekly *Herald* and make it a model News-paper. Do not think I am joking; I am in good earnest; and write only what I think and soberly believe. There is not a news-paper in all the world so much quoted as the *North-China Herald*;—in Parliamentary Papers and Speeches, in the Journals all over Europe and in other parts of the globe, even to the four quarters of the earth,—the *North-China Herald* finds its way and is quoted. It ought therefore to be made a *model news-paper*. Your Readers—at least, some of them,—like your short and pithy notes about Tea, Silk, etc. In the new Tariff are sundry articles that may furnish subjects for the descriptive powers of all kinds of genius, of every species of taste, and of all forms of style. Will you not, then, Sir, secure larger and more frequent descriptions of these material things, from Agar-agar to Wool? Old *Punch* and his company, if they were here, would find sport *ad libitum*.

But, Sir, leaving the Tariff, let me beg you immediately to give your Readers a few sketches of the "model foreign settlement." I have some notion of the single terms, "model," "foreign," and "settlement," and also of "local," and "institution;" still I am not a little in doubt as to your meaning of the combined terms; and I beg, therefore, that you will, *per se or per alios*, give us some idea or sketches of this model settlement and these local institutions.

To be a little more explicit, allow me to ask, where is the sealed city? Where the model settlement? and where and what are the local institutions?

These categorical questions, will, it is hoped, elicit categorical answers. For myself, one of your Constant Readers, I will be satisfied easily; but then, others will not, though they may be less ready than I am to speak out and tell you their wants. A Casual Visitor should not talk, or write, about *sides*—the English side, the American side, and the French side; or, if he will do so, he should give good authority for such language. It is denied that there is, in this modern settlement, any legal *English side*, or *Dutch side*, or *American side*, or *Spanish side*.

C. C. likewise, in the exuberance of his generosity, would have done us a larger favor if he had used the genuine classical orthography of his *Sz-zos*, &c. Mind you, I do not complain of what he has done, but of what he has omitted; for, I fancy, he might easily have added, to his *too-pah*, the pure *Mandarin* sounds of all the names in his long list of "Shanghai Lions."

Such a mode of writing Chinese names, as he has employed, is often very perplexing, as a little incident will show: Jack Tar, sent to deliver dispatches, meets his friend on the bridge, when passing northward over the Suchau creek and asks—"please tell me where to go with these dispatches and letters—some are for *Hoong Kow*, some for *Hang Ko*, some for *Hang Kew*, and some for *Hong Que*.—four different places:" "take it patiently Jack," said his friend, "and I will reduce the four to one;" and so pointing to one and the same spot, he said—

"There's *Hoong Kow*;
"There's *Hang Ko*;
"There's *Hang Kew*;
"There's *Hong Que*."

Thanking your contributors, and hoping they will tell us all about the model settlement, and the etc., I remain,

A CONSTANT READER.

Note. I have it on Chinese authority that 虹口, (*Hang-kau*), is the proper name of the small creek, which enters the Hwang-pu river near the American Episcopal School-house and Church, north of the Suchau Creek, and that this name, *Hang-kau* is now given to the adjacent locality; and I suppose that *Hang-kau* might well be accepted as the correct way of representing the name with our English alphabet.

Hoong-Kow, 29th December, 1858.

To the Editor of the

North-China Herald.

Dear Sir,—Under the head of "Local Institutions," in your last week's issue, a subject is mooted which has engaged the attention of residents here every successive winter—"How, shall we do our part, judiciously and effectually, towards relieving the sufferings of the poor and houseless during the inclement weather?"

No doubt many of your readers are aware that several methods have been tried in past years, by Dr. Lockhart and others, especially during the season of flood and famine which occurred in 1849-50. Rice in the grain has been distributed; Tickets (or Tallies) for bowls of boiled rice have been given to the hungry; Rice-kitchens have been erected where empty bowls were filled twice a-day; a Lodging-house has also been built for the houseless; "Cash" have been both casually and regularly distributed; Clothing has been largely furnished, and many other devices have been adopted to meet the exigencies of the case. All these methods, no doubt, have been productive of much good; but after all, I fear a feeling of dissatisfaction has been left on the mind of those actually engaged in the work; and there are few of them who would not, I am sure, be glad to take their part in carrying out some well considered and more thorough attempt to mitigate the miseries of the pauper population immediately around us. For my own part I can suggest no more feaseable plan than that a Relieving Agent (a Chinaman, of course) should be employed under the direction of a Committee, of which the British Chaplain should be Chairman. *All* cases of distress might be referred to the office of this Agent, and he would of course report to the Committee, who would in a short time be in possession of facts which would enable them to do, for our neighbourhood, what the benevolent Chinese themselves have done in the city—establish a "House of General Beneficence." Let me hope that this suggestion may take some practical form. "Acta non verba."

As to the Industrial Establishment for the Blind which is more especially under my own hand, I feel very grateful for the hearty cooperation which has been afforded thus far; and shall be equally gratified by all further "Voluntary Contributions:" the measure of relief afforded is in exact proportion to the amount of money subscribed for the purpose. At present, fifty is the number beyond which I cannot venture to undertake; though as many more would be glad to avail themselves of the benefits of the Institution. About *one tael per month* furnishes employment and support to a Blind man or woman; and my simple plan is to go on furnishing this employment as long as the "wherewithal" to do so holds out.

If any of your readers feel interest enough in the subject to desire more minute particulars, I shall be most happy to furnish them; and if there is in the Community any one who will volunteer to take some little trouble off my hands, in a way not onerous to him, but calculated to afford a great relief to me, I beg him to drop me a note at his earliest convenience. I have been greatly assisted in times past by the kind offices of a gentleman now no longer a resident here; and in this changing Community one who, like myself, has his relations and duties almost exclusively among the Chinese, is often under a considerable disadvantage from not knowing the names of those who would, with all cheerfulness "bear a hand" in sustaining a good effort, if only the way for doing so were pointed out.

I trust the fact of my name being specifically mentioned in the communication above referred to, will be considered a sufficient excuse for the strong "First-person-singular" flavor of this letter. If not, I am sure my plain-spokenness will be excused in consideration of the unquestioned, and unquestionable, benefit it is for a Poor Blind man to have the means of earning an honest living offered to him, while at the same time he is practically instructed in that prime principle of Christian Economics.—"If a man work not, neither shall he eat."—Yours very truly,

E. W. SYLE.

THE DRAMA UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

In the dearth of professional talent, the English public in India is entirely dependent for dramatic entertainment upon the efforts of the amateur; and private theatricals, though usually pooh-poohed, and voted slow at home, are at a high premium in a country where any attempt to dispel the ennui, and vary the monotony inseparable from a residence there, is hailed as a boon by the whole community. The clever actor is a most popular character, especially if he be in the comic line; he gets the credit of all the good things he says on the stage, and is a 'stunner,' 'an amusing person,' or 'a funny man,' according as the opinion is delivered by a rollicking subaltern, a pompous old bigwig, or a frisky young lady. This reputation is not without its inconvenience, however. Irreverent youths slap him on the back, and treat him with the greatest familiarity; whereas they approach the Claude Melnotte of the company with fear and trembling; and when, to fill up a cast, the comic man good-naturedly attempts something serious or sentimental, the audience, only accustomed to see him in *Box and Cox*, or *Bombastes Furioso*, provokingly mistake his pathos for drollery, and will insist upon laughing when he is doing his best to make them cry!

Every station of any size or standing in India possesses its regular Adelphi or Lyceum, built by subscription. The proscenium is of bright salmon colour, ornamented with imitation stage-boxes, and surmounted by a choice specimen of animal painting, in the shape of the royal arms—more remarkable, perhaps, as a display of loyalty than zoological research, and justifying a doubt in the spectator's mind as to 'which is the lion.' The drop is a master piece, in which the artist, despising the tame classical landscape, or architectural bit of still life common in an English theatre, has depicted a brilliant scene from a ballet, copied from the *Illustrated London News*, or a spirited representation of the action of Cuillianwallah, in which the stereotyped officer of battle-scenes, with his hair streaming in the wind, is sitting with much ease and grace on the invariable white charger, prancing in an impossible position on an inaccessible bit of ground, cheering on his men with his sword in one hand and his cocked-hat in the other, the remainder of the picture being a heterogeneous mass of dead Sikhs, smoke, and bayonets!

The scenery generally, in India, is of an original and striking character, being distinguished by a bold defiance of all rules of perspective, which never fails to have its due effect upon the bewildered spectator, and the artists are usually either amateur dabblers in oils and water-colours, or privates who, having commenced life as plumbers and glaziers, got sick of paint and putty, and exchange the brush for the musket. Should hypercriticism, as is sometimes the case, uncharitably mistake their clouds for feather-beds, or detect a fanciful resemblance in their trees to cabbages, the Indian Beverleys console themselves with the reflection, that the works of genius have always been liable to misconstruction, and that canvas can be bought very cheap in the bazaar.

Every European regiment has its regularly organised company; but in large stations the *corps dramatique* includes every one who has, or fancies he has, any histrionic talent, from the general to the drummer-boy; and the result is often a very creditable performance, displaying an amount of good acting that would not disgrace a London theatre.

There are some very clever amateurs among the soldiers; but a serious drawback to their performance is their systematic ill-treatment of the letter H. We naturally feel disgusted with Richard III. when we hear that conscience-stricken monarch bellowing loudly for 'another orse;' and if a despairing lover, regardless of his white ducks, drops down on his knees, and frantically implores his 'beautiful Hemmar' to fly with her 'faithful Enry,' we cannot help thinking, making every allowance for his agitation, and the absurdity of his position, that 'Enry's' education must have been sadly neglected.

Another common sin against Lindley Murray is that of reckless punctuation. As an instance: on one occasion, in a quarrel scene, a noble baron struck in the face by another noble baron. The receiver of the insult ought to have indignantly exclaimed: 'What!—a *blow!*' and, drawing his sword, have invited his adversary to 'come on;' instead of which, the injured nobleman, heedless of emphasis, exclaimed: '*What* a blow!' as if admiring the muscular strength of the opponent that had administered it.

The insane individual who attempts to manage a company of gentlemen-amateurs must be no ordinary mortal. He must give every one a good part and a handsome dress, and must read one at rehearsal, and superintend the manufacture of the other. He must make up his mind to be cut by half his acquaintance for not doing so. He must be a judicious combination of the *fortiter in re* and *suaviter in modo*, and must coax, bully, wheedle, or snub, according to circumstances. He must, on occasion, be his own scene-painter, property-man, prompter, and call-boy. He must never leave the theatre, except when, regardless of *coup de soleil*, he is rushing about the station in pursuit of some backsliding or rehearsal-shirking amateur. He must superintend everything and everybody in a temperature ranging from a hundred in the shade to boiling heat in the sun—in fact, he must be, as Mrs. Malaprop says, 'like Cerberus, three gentlemen at once;' and must partake of the united qualities of a lion, a lamb, and a salamander.

The first step towards getting up a performance is invariably a tiffin; for as in England no business can be transacted without a dinner, so in India tiffin is the meal at and after which all affairs of importance are discussed. On these festive occasions, so much noise is made, and such a quantity of bottled beer imbibed, that nothing is decided; every one has a favorite play, and wants to take the principal part; and the only thing carried unanimously is, that the invidious task of selecting one, and distributing the other, shall be left to the unhappy individual, a few of whose multifarious duties have been detailed above.

The great difficulty in India consists in procuring ladies for our dramas; and in the absence of professional aid, we are obliged to have recourse to the practice, common in Shakspeare's time, of making boys take women's parts. For this purpose, the judicious manager seizes upon all lately imported cadets, before their voices get gruff or their moustaches incipient, and forthwith puts them into petticoats; and pretty lady-like little men, with small waists, and falsetto organs, are ruthlessly deprived of their whiskers, and padded and bustled into models of symmetry and elegance. All sorts of ingenious devices are resorted to, to round off the rectangular figures of lanky ensigns and bony young cornets, who, with the assistance of crinoline and other artful contrivances, are converted into stately queens, fat landladies, sentimental spinsters, or pert chamber-maids, according to demand. Very lifelike and natural curls are manufactured out of tow, ribbon, and Berlin wool; two or three skeins of worsted, plaited, make capital 'back-hair,' and a net covers a multitude of sins. The ladies of the station are laid under contribution for old dresses, bonnets, and shawls, which, though rather shabby, and unable to bear the light of day, look perfectly splendid at night; and if new and gorgeous dresses be required, glazed calico is a very good imitation of satin, figured chintz of brocaded silk, and cheap cotton-velvet looks like the best Genoa by candle-light. Native tailors do the necessary millinery and dress-making, under the superintendence of a soldier's wife, who acts as lady's-maid to the company.

The difficulties of costume having been got over, the be-wigged and be flounced young Venuses are put through a course of feminine training, and drilled in all the little airs and graces essential to an elegant female deportment. They are taught to take short, mincing steps, curtsey without bobbing, salute affectionately by looking over each other's shoulders, manage their dress gracefully when sitting down, fan themselves prettily, run with propriety, faint becomingly, scream naturally, and, above all, hold their lace-edged pocket-handkerchiefs by the centre, and *not* at the corner, as these awkward young ladies invariably do.

In spite, however, of the greatest care in educating and 'making up' our actresses, the consequences of this Elizabethan custom are indicrous in the extreme. Close-shaven, blue chins, which no amount of paint or powder will conceal—voices, which coming apparently from elegantly dressed females, sound intensely gruff, as if their fair owners were suffering from severe cold in their heads; or, if pitched in a high key, occasionally breaking down, making the contrast more laughable—strides a good deal more than the thirty-six-inches allowed by Her Majesty's regulations as the proper length of pace for 'quick' time—waists, in spite of the most excruciating compression, equal in diameter to a good-sized barrel—too liberal an exposure of sandal—artificial prominence indulged in without judgment to an absurd extent, or dispensed with altogether, giving a strait up-and-down appearance to the human form divine ridiculous to behold—or perhaps some terrible catastrophe, when the whole structure, unartistically put together, comes unpinned or untied, and gives way 'with a run,' leaving the blushing *débutante* a chaotic ruin, afraid to stir, lest a more alarming *exposé* should take place, till the curtain descends precipitately amid screams of laughter, and relieves her modest confusion!

These little *contre-temps* constitute half the fun of amateur theatricals; and if nothing of the sort happened, the audience would consider themselves defrauded of part of their legitimate amusement.

An actor becomes nervous, forgets his part, and after writhing about in mute agony for some time, with his arms and legs spasmodically agitated, rushes wildly off the stage. The 'drop' is not ready at the end of a piece, and the *dramatis personæ* stand in a semicircle bowing and scraping like so many Chinese mandarins, and looking savagely up at the curtain, as if *that* would bring it down, till the audience are tired of applauding, when a general bolt takes place, and it eventually descends on an empty stage. Doors spoken of as locked are palpably open—characters are killed by pistols the property-man has forgotten to load, half of a palace 'flat,' all gilt and gingerbread, meets half a cottage one, decorated with a kitchen dresser—tree 'wings' appear in drawing-rooms—streets are paved with gay coloured carpets, and a hundred other theatrical enormities committed that would send Mr. Charles Kean into tetanic convulsions.

A scene like the following—quite a farce in itself—goes on for the twenty minutes before the rising of the curtain.

Scene—The stage of the Sunderbund Theatre; time—8 p.m., the hour named in the bill for the performance to commence; thermometer, a hundred and something; dressing-room at the sides opening on to the stage; scene-shifters in red jackets and forage-caps setting the scenes for the *School for Scandal*, under the direction of a stout sergeant, in a white livery coat and plush breeches, who unites the responsible offices of prompter and stage servant, officiating in the latter capacity on account of his calves, which are 'prodigious,' and a 'standing joke with the 'gods' whenever he makes his appearance.

Amateurs in various stages of undress are wandering about, manuscript in hand, muttering to themselves, or gesticulating furiously, and making horrible faces before looking-glasses. Crabtree is hearing Snake his part in one corner, and Joseph Surface is arranging Maria's back-hair in another. Rowley, a fat assistant-surgeon, is drawing black lines all over his jolly red face, in a hopeless attempt to give it a wrinkled appearance. Lady Teazle—in an old satin dress, the gift of the judge's wife, and a plume of ostrich feathers, cut out of silver paper—is sitting on an imitation mangle in the middle of the stage, drinking brandy and water, and puffing out volumes of smoke from a long Trichinopoli cheroot, with her feet on the back of a chair, displaying a pair of elephantine ankles, which are usually decorated with boots and spurs, her ladyship holding an appointment in the governor-general's body-guard. A wonder-stricken native is fanning her with a hand punkah, to prevent the amalgamation of the rose and lily—in other words, the rouge and pearl-powder, composing her complexion. Sir Oliver Surface, an animated lath, is attempting, with pillows and other bulky articles, to give a more imposing appearance to his spare anatomy, and visibly melting away during the process. Lady Sneerwell—a baldheaded civilian, the collector of Mangopore—is sticking on a black sheep-skin beard for Moses, an amateur intrusted with the part, on account of his Jewish cast of countenance. Trip and Careless, two commissariat officers, are squabbling for the possession of a gaudy yellow waistcoat with blue sprigs; and Mrs. Candour—a little major, and of course podgy—is bawling for some one to 'hook' her. Native servants are flying about in a state bordering on distraction at the bewildering orders of their excited masters. Screams for assistance and shouts of laughter resound on all sides. Corks are popping everywhere, collision constantly occurring, everybody is in everybody else's way, and all is hurry, bustle and confusion.

Enter Captain Crummles, the manager, dressed as Sir Peter Teazle, minus his wig, and with a forage-cap on, in the state of excitement usual with managers on nights of performance. He is followed by a punkah-wallah, who has some trouble in keeping up with his ubiquitous master.

Sir Peter. Now, then, look alive, you fellows: the overture's just going to begin. Strike up, Mr. Crasher (telegraphing from the side to the band-master in the orchestra). By Jove! (looking through a hole in the drop) the house is nearly full, and the brigadier's come. Vanish! you niggers (making a dash at a group of grinning natives that are crowding in to see the sahib's *nautch*)—clear the road, you sons of blacking-bottles (driving them helter-skelter in all directions) Fan away, Mephistopheles—I'm parboiled (sinks into a chair). Holloa! who's been smoking? (starting up).

Lady Teazle (concealing her cheroot, and looking the picture of innocence). It's the lamp, I think.

Sir P. No, it isn't—the lamps don't burn tobacco! (perceiving her Trichinopoli, and coaxingly) Now do put it out, Bagot; you know it's against the rules. They'll smell it in front, and then there'll be row.

Lady T. All right; only one more whiff—there—(throwing it away, and hitting Joseph Surface in the eye as he comes on the stage).

Joseph Surface. Come, I say.

Lady T. Beg pardon, old fellow; I didn't mean to hit you—I aimed at that coolie.

Sir Oliver Surface. (who, having finished his stuffing, is panting on a sofa with two natives fanning him). I say, Crummles, if you don't begin soon, there'll be nothing left of me but wool and feathers. Here, Butler, bring me something cold in a bucket.

Sir P. What's this mangle doing here, in Lady Sneerwell's dressing-room, Merryweather? It's not wanted till the farce.

Sergeant Merryweather. I couldn't get a toilet-table, sir, and I'm going to make the mangle do with a sheet and a looking-glass.

Sir P. Oh, very well. Just go in front, will you, and pull the carpet straight.

The sergeant's appearance before the curtain is the signal for roars of laughter, and shouts of 'calves' from the gallery, which send him back a good deal flustered, but smiling as the corpulent non-commissioned officer is secretly vain of his supporters.

Lady Sneerwell. (entering from dressing-room in a state of transition, and with a shaving-brush in her hand.) Will any one lace me? I have to go on in the first scene.

Sir Benjamin Backbite, (a powerful Hibernian) I will. Come here, and I'll make you an illigant figure. Lay tight hould of something. Are you ready?

Lady S. (clutching a wing). Yes! Pull away!

Sir B. (tugging at the lace). Hoy-oh! Hoy-oh!

Lady S. Oh, not so tight. Let go. I can't breathe.

Sir B. One—two—three—haul. (Lace gives way, and Sir Benjamin tumbles through a scene.)

Lady S. Thank goodness?

Sir P. (rushing at Sir Benjamin, and picking him up). Now, then, stupid! We're not playing a pantomime, that you need go flying through the scenery in that harlequin fashion.

Sir B. Och! my leg's broke.

Sir P. Bother your leg! Look at the hole you've made in that panel. Bring a needle and thread, Merryweather, and see if you can't stitch it up.

Sir B. And then come and try your hand on my pantaloons, sergeant; they're split to ribbons! (looking ruefully down at his fractured garments, and limping away).

Maria (a skinny young ensign in white muslin, who looks more like a lamp-post than a young lady). Has any one seen my silk stockings? Will this do, Crummles? (shewing her dress, and turning round for inspection).

Sir P. No—of course not! You're not sufficiently developed, my dear. Ladies in Sheridan's time were like balloons. Where's Mrs. Brown?

Maria She's dressing the major! (The major is Mrs. Candour.)

Sir P. When she's finished him, tell her to make you a good deal plumper; and bring me some Indian ink, and I'll give you a pair of eyebrows.

While this operation is being performed, enter Trip and Careless, very much excited.

Trip I'll wear it!

Careless. No, you won't; I will.

Trip (on one side of Sir Peter). Didn't you say, Crummles, I was to wear that yellow waistcoat?

Care. (at the other side). No, you said I was.

Sir P. What does it matter? There are others in the wardrobe.

Care. But it's too good for a servant.

Trip No gentleman would be seen in such a thing.

Care. (who has the coveted garment on). Well, I've got it, and I shall keep it.

Trip (with dignity). Then I won't act!

Sir P. (laughing). Nonsense. I'll lend you twice as good a one (producing a flaming red waistcoat from a box, with which Trip retires triumphantly.)

Joseph Surface (with cork in his hand). I say, Bagot (to Lady Teazle), give me a pair of moustaches.

Sir P. No, no; *you* musn't wear moustaches. Why, Maria will be wanting a pair next.

Lady S. (who is progressing in her toilet, and presents the unusual appearance of a highly rouged and splendidly dressed lady, with a perfectly bald head). I say, Crummles, I advise you not to go near my wife; she's awfully savage with you for making me cut off my whiskers.

Sir P. You look twice as well without them.

Lady S. Gammon! I'll do anything for you in the low comic line; but this is my last appearance in petticoats.

Enter Mrs. Brown, the 'lady's-maid,' an antiquated old female, with an inflamed countenance. She is evidently in that stage of semi-intoxication, popularly known as 'half-seas over,' caused by her having skilfully intercepted several consignments of liquid intended for the refreshment of the amateurs. She stands swaying to and fro in the doorway of the ladies' dressing-room, and articulates huskily.

Mrs Brown. Were you awanting me, Cap'n Crummle?

Sir P. Yes, Mrs. Brown. Look there (pointing to Maria's limp medieval figure)—*that* won't do.

Mrs B. I can't do nothink with Muster Blackingberry, Cap'n Crummle. He ain't got no ips: at least (correcting herself), none worth mentionin'.

Sir P. You *must* do something for him. Hips or no hips, he can't go on the stage with no more figure than a bathing-woman.

Mrs. B. Well, Cap'n Crummle, I'll make the young gentleman fuller, if you like, but I won't answer for the consequences.

Sir P. That's right. Go along, Brackenbury, and see if you can't grow a little stouter: you'd be a perfect Venus if you had more of the Hottentot in you.

Mrs. Brown retires, muttering something about 'when a gent ain't got no ips;' then returns and sidles up to Sir Peter.

Mrs. B. You couldn't tell that black chap to bring a bottle of beer to my room, could you, Cap'n Crummle?

Sir P. Certainly not, Mrs. Brown. You've had quite enough already.

Mrs. B. Lor! Cap'n Crummle, how *can* you say so? I've hardly tasted a drop.

Sir P. Never mind: I'll send some to you when the performance is over.

Mrs. B. Oh, just as you please, Cap'n Crummle. It's not for myself I wanted it: the major was feeling dry, and says he: 'Mrs. Brown, like a good creature, go to Cap'n Crummle, and'——

Mrs. Candour (from dressing-room). What's that about the major? (Mrs. Brown retires discomfitted.)

Enter Mrs. Candour, a jovial little field-officer, *rather* inclining to *embonpoint*, in a handsome dress made out of window curtains, and a petticoat of white calico.

Mrs. C. I say, Crummles, my boy, what am I to do? My dress doesn't fit me (turning round and shewing a wide gap). That thick-headed tailor measured me *before* dinner. It's no use trying—I've had two of the grenadier company tugging at me for the last ten minutes.

Sir P. It can't be helped. You must only keep your 'full front' to the audience, and back out when you make your exit. See if all the characters for the first act are ready, Merryweather.—By the by, where's Brummel? (counting the actors, and missing the amateur that was to take Charles Surface). Has any one seen Brummel?

Moses. He's playing billiards with the colonel; at least——

Charles Surface (the regimental dandy, appearing at door in uniform). Where *do* you expect to go to, you howwible Hebwew?

Sir P. 'Pon my word, it's too bad; Brummel if you can't be here in time, you'd better not act at all; we're just going to ring up.

C. S. (taking off his coat). Oh, pitch into the colonel, not into me, you old savage. I was obliged to finish the wubber, and let him win it too, or I shouldn't have got leave from pawade to-mowwow.

Sir P. Well, looking sharp, Beau; the brigadier's here, and you know how savage he gets if he's kept waiting.

S. C. (taking off his waistcoat). He doesn't care, though, how long he keeps us gwilling in the sun, while he smokes his morning chewoot. Here, Beawer, pull off my boots; I'm not equal to the exertion. And you, black Ganymede (to the native mounting guard over the champagne), a glass of the 'cweamy;' I'm athirst.

Sir P. (imploringly, as Brummel generally goes on 'primed' as he calls it). Now, do be careful, Beau: you know you were half screwed in the *Rivals*.

C. S. (tossing down a tumblerful). Why, you old *te*totaller! I never acted better in my life. You're jealous because I brought down the house.

Sir Oliver (who was Mrs. Malaprop on the occasion). Yes, when you tripped over your own sword, and nearly sent me flying into the pit.

Sergeant Mer, (to Sir Peter). There's the last bar of the overture, sir.

Sir P. (immediately getting excited). Now, then, clear the stage. If you don't get out of that, I'll break your head (to a bewildered native, who, in his extreme anxiety to be out of everybody's way, is squatting under a table on the stage). Look out with the drop. Come on, Lady Sneerwell; and Snake—where's Snake?

Snake (from dressing-room). I can't find my wig.

Sir P. Oh, hang your wig; come on without.

Snake. Will you lend me yours?

Sir P. No—of course not. (Indignantly.)

Snake. I can't go on in my own hair. (It is bright red.)

Sir P. Then we must cut out the scene.

Lady S. No, no—I'll go through it by myself. Enter an aid-de-camp in full dress.

Aid-de-camp. The brigadier wants to know when you're going to begin.

Sir P. Immediately.

Lady T. If not sooner.

Maria (whose figure is much improved). Ask the old boy, with my compliments, if he'll sing a comic song between the acts.

Sir P. Now, then, Snake, *are* you coming?

Snake (running on breathless, with his wig turned the wrong way). I've found it; fire away.

Sir P. Take your places. (Reading from prompt-book)—'Lady Sneerwell sitting at dressing-table, right; Snake, left—drinking chocolate.' Sit down and fan yourself, Lushington; and drink chocolate, can't you, Snake?

Snake. There isn't any to drink.

Sir P. (stamping). Never mind; take up the cup, and make-believe. Now, then, are you all ready? Mind you, speak out, Snake. Don't hold your fan like a cricket-bat, Lushington.

Lady Sneerwell, in her attempt to be more graceful, drops it. She stoops to pick it up; a subdued crash is heard. She starts up.

Sir P. (horrified). What's the matter?

Lady S. Something's given way—I don't know where—but I'm coming undone. Mrs. Brown! Mrs. Brown! (rushes to dressing-room, followed by Sir Peter tearing his hair, and shouting 'Music!'

The band strikes up a polka, to which, in spite of the heat, Joseph Surface and Maria commence dancing, followed by Moses and Mrs. Candour. In about five minutes, during which two messages are received from the brigadier, Sir Peter returns with Lady Sneerwell repaired.

Sir P. (savagely). Now, then, stop that dancing, and clear the stage. Just see the state you're in You (to Joseph Surface) that ought to be looking so calm and sanctimonious, have got a face the colour of beetroot. And that right eyebrow of yours, that I took such pains with, Maria, is trickling all down your nose. Now, then. (seizing bell)—places—(Lady Sneerwell and Snake take their seats). Ready?

Lady S. Wait a bit—I'm parched. Bring me some champagne, Merryweather.

Sir Peter executes a *pas* indicative of impatience.

Snake (holding out his cup). And give me a little; it will look more natural.

Sir P. That'll do. *Are* you ready? Mind the drop. Will you clear the stage? (First bell—band stops.) For goodness' sake, don't crack anything else, Lushington. Look out (second bell). Half-a-dozen amateurs, who, as usual, have loitered on the stage till the last moment, scamper off at the different wings, like so many rabbits; and up goes the curtain, discovering Lady Sneerwell fanning herself rather awkwardly, and Snake drinking champagne out of a chocolate cup.

CONUNDRUMS.

Why may the ladies of the present day be called thieves?

Can you tell me why a hypocrite sly,
Can better descry, than you can, or I,
On how many toes a pussy-cat goes?
(The answer to be in verse.)

ANSWER TO THE CONUNDRUM IN LAST WEEK'S NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

What is it? you ask; why, you'll find it among
Your much cherished teeth, on the tip of your tongue;
In the tail of the comet, the top of a tree;
And never away from your toast or your tea.
To be plain, read the alphabet carefully through,
And you'll see it immediately staring at *you!*
Now, good Mr. Editor, dont you agree
With your readers, I've hit the reply to a T?

J.

CHARADE.

A maid before a mirror stood,
As maidens love to do;
My *second* served her for a hood,
And hat or bonnet too:

Her spotless glove, without a fold,
(A lover's gift perhaps,)
Protects at once my *first* from cold,
And keeps away the *chaps!*

She gazed upon that form of grace,
She sighed and looked again—
When lo! a change come o'er her face,
As if in grief or pain:

My *second* from her brow she stole,
Her features to disclose;
And, raising with my *first* my *whole*,
She gently blew her nose!

J.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Showing the highest and lowest degrees of temperature in the month of *January*, 1858, from observations taken by a self registering Thermometer in the open air, in a shaded situation, at Shanghai,—the *Maximum* by day, and the *Minimum* at night; and the number of rainy days during the same period,—also the average of the same for the past 7 years.

January 1858.—16 rainy days.

	Max.	*Min.*		*Max.*	*Min.*
1	53	44	17	45	32
2	50	40	18	44	32
3	51	43	19	45	28
4	56	51	20	38	28
5	54	49	21	43	29
6	55	43	22	41	37
7	47	40	23	52	44
8	46	36	24	46	33
9	55	38	25	38	27
10	57	46	26	36	27
11	47	35	27	43	27
12	42	33	28	44	34
13	40	27	29	44	35
14	37	28	30	45	35
15	40	29	31	47	34
16	45	29			

Average of 7 years { Thermo. *Max.* 45, *Min.* 29. Rainy days 6.14.

To be continued monthly.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Vessels.	Flag & Rig.	Tons	Captain.	From	Sailed	Cargo.	Consignees.
Dec 25	Portena	B. bark	354	McGowan	Honolulu		Ballast	G. C. Schwabe and Co
.. 25	Clio	Bre. bk	400	Frohling	Hongkong	Nov 25	Sundries	Harkort and Co
.. 25	Judith	A. ship	993	Brown	Singapore		do	Siemssen and Co
.. 26	Anna	Old. bk	234	Schulken	Hongkong	Dec 2	Sugar	Wm. Pustau and Co
.. 26	Melita	A. schr	198	Stratten	Hongkong	.. 6	Sundries	Wm. Pustau and Co
.. 26	Beaver	A. ship	727	Smith	Hongkong	.. 4	do	Augustine Heard & Co
.. 26	Amazone	Ha. bk	266	Riese	Hongkong	Nov 20	Coals	G. C. Schwabe and Co
.. 27	Taymouth Castle	B. ship	682	King	Swatow	Dec 10	Sugar	Dent and Co
.. 27	Louisa Baillie	B. ship	494	Smith	Swatow	Nov 13	Sugar, &c.	Wm. Pustau and Co
.. 27	Westburn	B. ship	593	Bruce	Hongkong		Sundries	Captain
.. 27	Betty	Swe. bg	260	Holmberg	Amoy	Dec 14	do	G. C. Schwabe and Co
.. 27	Fernando de Norzagaray	A. str	348	Schibye	Manila	.. 17	do	Russell and Co
.. 30	Gighet [Russ.	g-boat			Hakodadi			

DEPARTURES

From Woosung.

Date.	Vessels.	Flag & Rig.	Tons	Captain.	Destination.	Cargo.	Despatched by
Dec 25	Scutari	B. ship	513	Ollard	London	Tea & Silk	Smith, Kennedy and Co
.. 26	Grace Darling	A. ship			*Unknown*		Order
.. 26	Florence	A. ship	1045	Dunaresq	do		Russell and Co
.. 27	Syrian	B. brig	228	Hodgeton	Japan	Re-expts	A. R. Tilby
.. 30	Minna	A. schr	299	Meode	Japan	do	A. R. Tilby
.. 31	Queensberry	B. ship	635	Cassady	Swatow	Sundries	Captain

SHIPPING IN HARBOUR

And at Woosung.

MERCHANT VESSELS.

Vessels.	Date of Arrival	Flag & Rig.	Tons	Captain.	Consignees.	Destination.	Intended despatch
Acme	Nov 27	Da. bg	218	Dinesen	Harkort and Co	Fuchau	cld 29th
Admiral	Dec 9	B. bark	412	Poe	Wetmore, Williams and Co.	Swatow	Imdt.
Alipore	Sept 27	B. ship	811	Murdock	Gilman and Co.		
Amazone	Dec 26	Ha. bk	266	Riese	Bower, Hanbury and Co		
Amiral Baudin	Nov 13	Fr bk	562	Forestier	Rémi, Schmidt et Cie		
Anna	Dec 26	Old. bk	234	Schulken	Wm. Pustau and Co	HkongorW'poa	Early
Antagonist	Dec 9	B. bark	436	Turner	Jas: Bowman and Co	Amoy	Early
Beaver	Dec 26	A. ship	727	Smith	Augustine Heard and Co	New York	Early
Bentek	Sept 30	Sia. bk	600	Phillips	E. Waller	Bangkok	cld 22d
Betty	Dec 27	Swe. bg	260	Holmberg	Bower, Hanbury and Co		
Black River Packet	July 21	B. bark	264	Dick	A. R. Tilby		
Bride of the Seas	Nov 5	B. ship	516	Donald	Gibb, Livingston and Co.		
Carausius	Sept 22	B. ship	510	Patterson	A. R. Tilby		
Clio	Dec 25	Bre. bk	400	Frohling	Harkort and Co		
Cornubia	Dec 11	B. bark	459	Ellison	Jardine, Matheson and Co		
Countess of Seafield	Sept 13	B. bark	492	Brown	Geo. Barnet and Co	Swatow	
Donna Anita	Sept 17	B. bark	456	Burdett	Bower, Hanbury and Co	Ningpo	cld 29th
Earl of Windsor	Oct 3	B. ship	739	Brown	Jardine, Matheson and Co		
Eastern Star	Sept 30	A. ship	1017	Jones	Wm. Hargreaves		
Egmont	Sept 11	B. ship	767	Gibson	W. R. Adamson and Co		
Elizabeth Ann	Nov 6	B. ship	562	Parsons	Jardine, Matheson and Co		
Emma	Dec 10	B. brig	121	Douglas	Blenkin, Rawson and Co		
Fernando de Norzagaray	Dec 27	A. str	348	Schibye	Russell and Co		
Gauntlet	Aug 6	B. ship	692	Inglis	Bower, Hanbury and Co	Montreal	
Ghazra	Aug 16	B. bark	501	Black	Turner and Co.		
Greta	Dec 10	Ha. bg	176	Wedell	Wm. Pustau and Co	HkongorW'poa	cld 29th
Halls	Dec 10	Ha. bk	499	Hinrichsen	Harkort and Co		
Harvest Home	Dec 7	B. bark	436	Wright	Turner and Co.		
Henry Harbeck	Oct 30	A. ship	714	True	Wetmore, Williams and Co.	New York	Early
Idas	Sept 23	B. ship	706	Wescott	Wm. Hargreaves	London	Early
Indien	Nov 13	Fr. ship	705	Bourdase	Rémi, Schmidt et Cie		
James Lemon	Dec 14	B. bark	485	Macaulay	Smith, Kennedy and Co		
Joshua Bates	Dec 19	A. ship	620	McCallum	Birley, Worthington and Co	New York	Early
Judith	Dec 25	A. ship	993	Brown	Siemssen and Co.		
Kamehameha IV.	Nov 5	B. ship	499	Garry	Smith, Kennedy and Co		
Kangaroo	July 7	B. ship	577	Robinson	Smith, Kennedy and Co		
Kremlin	Nov 13	A. bark	469	Johnson	Russell and Co		
Lady Inglis	Sept 20	B. bark	376	Twizell	Bower, Hanbury and Co		
Livingston	Dec 9	B. ship	535	Prynn	Bower, Hanbury and Co		
Lord Clarendon	Dec 18	B. brig	273	Prance	Dent and Co		
Louisa Baillie	Dec 27	B. ship	494	Smith	Wm. Pustau and Co		
Masden	Aug 23	B. brig	218	Doble	A. R. Tilby		
Melita	Dec 26	A. schr	195	Stratten	Wm. Pustau and Co		
Mencius	Nov 24	B. ship	569	Williamson	Shaw, Bland and Co		
Meteor	Feb 28	B. str	136	Macdonald	Captain		
Miranda	Dec 10	Pru. bg	186	Woller	Wetmore, Williams and Co.	Hkong&W'poa	Imdt.
Nabob	July 27	A. ship	1245	Baxter	Russell and Co.	New York	10th inst
Napier	Dec 11	A. ship	1811	Kennedy	Russell and Co		
New Margaret	Dec 16	B. bark	411	Hovey	Gibb, Livingston and Co.	Swatow	Imdt.
Nimrod		B. bark	334	Corbett	David Sassoon, Sons and Co	Hongkong	Early
Norden	Sept 17	Sw. bk	612	Windaufra	Rémi, Schmidt et Cie A. Howard. *Broker*	Swatow	cld 27th
Oscar Vidal	Dec 15	Ha. sh	740	Benz	Bower, Hanbury and Co		
Portena	Dec 25	B. bark	354	McGowan	Bower, Hanbury and Co		
Queen of the North	Nov 4	B. ship	908	Rapson	Bower, Hanbury and Co		
Ravenscraig	Aug 16	B. ship	588	Barron	Holliday, Wise and Co		
Rémi	Oct 26	B. str	322	Laen	Rémi, Schmidt et Cie		
Ringleader	Oct 6	A. ship	1156	Matthews	Augustine Heard and Co.	New York	Early
Romance of the Seas	Sept 22	A. ship	1781	Caldwell	Russell and Co		
Sarah Lucy	Dec 18	B. bark	450	Watson	Fletcher and Co		
Sir W. F. Williams	Dec 18	B. ship	867	Rees	Shaw, Bland and Co		
Solomon Family	June 13	B. ship	760		Dent and Co		
Spirit of the Deep	Nov 20	B. ship	629	Hewitt	W. R. Adamson and Co		
Spirit of the North	Nov 9	B. bark	671	Martin	Gibb, Livingston and Co.	London	Imdt.
Star of the North	Dec 22	B. ship	935	Buckham	Fletcher and Co		
Tamar	Nov 19	B. bark	556	Ross	Fletcher and Co	Amoy	cld 27th
Taymouth Castle	Dec 27	B. ship	682	King	Dent and Co		
Troas	Aug 12	B. ship	663	Holmes	Jardine, Matheson and Co	Hkong&W'poa	Early
Typhoon	Dec 20	Pru. bg	220	Meinck	Wm. Pustau and Co		
Versailles	Nov 5	B. ship	620	Carter	Shaw, Bland and Co	Fuchau	cld 31st
Virginia	Sept 26	Bre. bk	302	Franke	Wetmore, Williams and Co.	Hkong&W'poa	Early
Westburn	Dec 27	B. ship	593	Bruce	Captain		
Woodville	Dec 9	B. bark	361	Brown	W. R. Adamson and Co.		
Zealandia	Dec 20	B. ship	1032	Foster	Dent and Co	London	Early
73 *Merchant Vsls.*							

SHIPS OF WAR IN HARBOUR & AT WOOSUNG.

Names	Class	Guns	Tons	Crew	Commander	Horse-power
Actæon	H M frigate	26	..	167	John Ward	..
Highflyer	H M sc-st corvt	21	..	240	C F A Shadwell, C B	250
Opossum (94)	H M gun-boat	4	..	37	Balfour	60
La Place	H I M steamer	..	..	..	Kerjegu	..
Gighet	Russian gun-boat	..	..	..		..

RECEIVING SHIPS—*AT WOOSUNG.*

Vessels.	Flag & Rig.	Tons	Captain.	Owners.
Ann Welsh	B. bark	341	Endicott	Augustine Heard and Co.
Ariel	B. ship	592	Keppell	P. F. Cama and Co
Emily Jane	B. ship	427	Vincent	Dent and Co.
Folkstone	B. ship	406		Jardine, Matheson and Co.
Lady Hayes	B. bark	384	Baylis	Jardine, Matheson and Co.
Swallow	B. bark	343	Henderson	Lindsay and Co.
Wellington	B. bark	472	Bennett	David Sassoon, Sons and Co

ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS.

		Janry.	*Febry.*	*March*	*April*	*May*	*June*	*July*	*Augt.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*
1850		7	13	6	5	3 & 21	24	24	15	28	22	24	29
1851		none	1	7	2	1 & 30	24	20	17	28	31	none	3
1852		6	9	2	27	19	15	15	14	13	26	19	24
1853	Monthly	26	20	19	19	30	20	27	17	18	22	24	22
	Bi-monthly	—	—	—	19	3 & 30	none	3 & 29	none	9 & 28	none	10	20
1854	Monthly	28	25	none	11 & 26	17	22	18	17	25	27	28	none
	Bi-monthly	15	7	9	5	12	3	6	4	8 & 28	none	18	22
1855	Monthly	16	none	5	none	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Bi-monthly	16	5	11	13	5	4	2	5	4	4	8	13
1856	Monthly	11	5	19	9	7	1	3	3 & 6	7	8	13	9 & 10
	Bi-monthly	—	—	—	—	21	23	21	15	28	25	27	none
1857	Monthly	5	11	5	7	6 & 30	21	14 & 27	—	1 & 29	—	3 & 30	—
	Bi-monthly	—	2 & 23	—	2 & 25	21	—	11	12	18	28	24	—
1858	Monthly	3	16	8	5	2 & 28	24	13	12	25	31	—	1
	Bi-monthly	1 & 25		24	—	2 & 12	12	28	28	16	17	17	17

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From *London*—Anglo Saxon, 15th Augt.; and Aramingo, 3d Sept.
Liverpool—Cambalu, 9th Oct.
Gravesend—Tung Yu, 13th Augt.; New Era, 11th Sept.; Ziba, 11th Oct.
Deal—Heroes of Alma, 5th Sept.
Plymouth—Southern Belle, 26th Augt.
Sunderland—Berwick Walls, and Shan-tung, 26th Sept.
Boston—Snow Squall, 21st Augt.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT *of the* EXPORT *of* TEA *and* SILK *from* SHANGHAI.

Year ending 30th June.	*Total Black*	*Total Green*	TEA *Total Pounds*	SILK *Total Bales*
1844-45			3,800,627	6,431
1845-46			12,459,988	15,192
1846-47			12,494,140	15,972
1847-48			15,711,142	21,176
1848-49			18,303,074	18,
1849-50			22,363,370	15
1850-51			36,722,540	17,
1851-52			57,675,000	20,631
1852-53			69,431,000	25,076
1853-54			50,343,847	58,319
1854-55	45,385,816	34,835,420	80,221,245	53,965
1855-56	29,115,273	30,184,693	59,299,966	57,463
1856-57	12,470,686	28,443,704	40,914,390	92,160
1857-58	25,978,114	25,988,527	51,317,003	66,291

	TO GREAT BRITAIN, *(direct)*, HONGKONG *and* PORTS BEYOND.				TO THE UNITED STATES.			
Year ending 30th June.	*Black Tea*	*Green Tea*	TEA *Total Lbs.*	SILK *Total Bales*	*Black Tea*	*Green Tea*	TEA *Total Lbs.*	SILK *Total Bales*
1847-48			11,372,141	19,117	226,626	1,514,151	1,740,78[illegible]	
1848-49			12,210,363	15,915	616,257	2,370,075	2,986,332	25
1849-50			13,867,497	13,162	1,648,829	3,974,879	5,623,708	615
1850-51			21,687,816	15,325	3,751,899	7,316,641	11,068,540	250
1851-52			31,225,000	20,335	3,600,000	14,400,000	18,000,000	294
1852-53			38,661,100	24,803	2,934,700	19,965,600	22,900,300	524
1853-54			29,856,188	55,185	3,118,200	13,584,200	16,702,400	1,074
1854-55	39,586,059	10,428,036	50,014,095	53,965	1,154,573	22,584,308	23,738,881	.. ..
1855-56	24,668,430	8,543,424	33,211,854	56,275	289,442	20,650,537	20,939,979	1,158
1856-57	10,607,084	10,794,487	21,401,571	90,523	381,553	16,886,572	17,268,125	1,637
1857-58	22,415,292	7,212,648	29,627,940	65,740	315,303	17,625,806	17,941,109	1,608

EXPORT *of* TEA *and* SILK *from* SHANGHAI, *from* 1st *July*, 1857, *to* 30th *June*, 1858.

DESTINATION.	BLACK TEA. Lbs.	GREEN TEA Lbs.	TEA. Total Lbs.	SILK Total Bales
To UNITED STATES,	315,303	17,625,806	17,941,109	1,608
GREAT BRITAIN, *direct and Coastwise*	23,042,968	7,188,875	30,231,843	65,685*
AUSTRALIA,			852,393	
COASTWISE,	443,144	733,397	1,176,541	
CONTINENT,			497,969	95
NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES,	43,914	309,122	353,036	
SAN FRANCISCO,	83,684	42,975	126,659	
MANILA,	64,247	72,775	137,022	
Total	23,993,260	25,972,950	51,317,172	67,291

* Includes 6,478 bales Thrown, 361 Coarse, and 566 Waste.

EXPORT *of* TEA *and* SILK *from* SHANGHAI *to* GREAT BRITAIN, *(direct)*, *From* 1st *July*, 1858, *to dates.*

Sailed	Ship's Name.	Tons	For	*Black Tea*	*Green Tea*	TEA *Total Pounds*	SILK *Total Bales*
Aug 7	Mirage	716	London	453,904	256,841	710,745	579
Sept 6	Stornoway	527	..do	137,776	111,601	249,377	3,457
.. 18	Challenger	698	..do	221,600	218,800	440,400	3,139
.. 22	Jubilee	764	..do	37,533	728,336	765,869	2,329
Nov 7	Joseph Fletcher	672	..do	203,200	340,560	543,760	2,311
.. 14	Assyrian	555	..do	288,149	332,933	621,082	1,207
.. 25	Wellington	402	..do	61,357	253,952	315,309	1,171
.. 27	Strathmore	450	..do	429,255		429,255	1,251
.. 28	Lord of the Isles	691	..do	225,691	381,772	607,463	1,451
Dec 9	Amicus	511	..do	216,333	282,264	498,597	1,293
.. 12	Akbar	735	..do	678,200	201,700	879,900	645
.. 13	John Masterman	608	..do	453,593	262,037	715,630	7
.. 23	Scutary	543	..do	367,090	224,894	591,984	

EXPORT *of* TEA *and* SILK, *from* SHANGHAI *to the* UNITED STATES, *From* 1st *July*, 1858, *to dates.*

Sailed	Ship's Name.	Tons	For	*Black Tea*	*Green Tea*	TEA *Total Pounds*	*Raw Silk* Peculs	*Other Silk*	*Silk Piece Goods* Pieces
Oct 2	Fairy	629	New York		573,110	573,110	137:16		10,400
.. 9	Quickstep	523	..do		706,803	706,803	19:20		
.. 13	Hotspur	862	..do		831,290	831,290	222:19		12,570
.. 15	Pampero	1375	..do		1,265,254	1,265,254	196:89		2,775
.. 23	N. B. Palmer	1399	..do		1,277,100	1,277,100	25:02		10,500
.. 31	Mandarin	776	..do		718,461	718,461			
Nov 7	Eureka	1041	..do		1,054,328	1,054,328	36:09		
.. 8	Kate Hastings	448	..do		590,442	590,442			
.. 8	Sancho Panza	875	..do		861,500	861,500	39.95		4,400
.. 21	Ino	895	..do		639,258	639,258	48:94		
Dec 6	Oscar	648	..do	1,535	826,031	827,566	126:50		
.. 17	Swordfish	1034	..do		820,555	820,555	20:40		4,850
.. 19	Canvass Back	731	..do		750,380	750,380			
.. 20	Isaac Jeanes	843	..do		943,133	943,133	51:77		

EXPORT *of* TEA *from* SHANGHAI *to the* NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES, *From* 1st *July*, 1858.

Sailed	Ship's Name.	Tons	For	*Black Tea*	*Green Tea*	TEA *Total Pounds.*

EXPORT *of* TEA *from* SHANGHAI *to the* SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COLONIES *(direct)*, *From* 1st *July*, 1858.

Sailed	Ship's Name.	Tons	For	*Black Tea*	*Green Tea*	TEA *Total Pounds.*

EXPORT *of* TEA *and* SILK *from* SHANGHAI *to the* CONTINENT, *From* 1st *July*, 1858.

Sailed	Ship's Name	Tons	For	*Black Tea*	*Green Tea*	TEA *Total Pounds*	SILK *Total Bales*

EXPORT *of* SILK *from* SHANGHAI COASTWISE, *From* 1st *July*, 1858, *to dates.*

Sailed	Ship's Name.	Tons	For	SILK *Total Bales*
July 15	Formosa, str.	750	Hongkong	1,276
Aug 2	Aden, str.,	812	do	2,051
.. 15	Yang-tsze, str.	700	do	860
.. 15	Chusan, str.,	700	do	2,629
Sept 2	Yang-tsze, str.	700	do	72
.. 4	Formosa, str.,	750	do	2,720
.. 19	Yang-tsze, str.	700	do	26
.. 21	Norna, str.	970	do	3,023
.. 24	Hellespont, str.,	330	do	17
.. 29	Formosa, str.,	750	do	1,582
Oct 4	Lanrick	283	do	199
.. 5	Aden, str.,	812	do	1,829
.. 5	Mary F. Slade	199	do	[illegible]
.. 19	Yang-tsze, str.,	700	do	[illegible]
.. 23	Formosa, str.,	750	do	2,26
.. 29	Elizabeth	410	do ... *vid* Amoy	18
.. 30	Hellespont, str.,	330	do	10
Nov 7	Aden, str.,	812	do	1,904
.. 17	Christian	176	do	34
.. 22	Formosa, str.,	750	do	3,015
.. 28	Hellespont, str.,	330	do	17
.. 25	Lanrick	283	do ... *vid* Fuchau	25
Dec 4	Yang-tsze, str.	700	do	741
.. 7	Aden, str,	812	do	2,470
.. 22	Hellespont, str.,	330	do	311
.. 23	Formosa, str.,	750	do	2,955

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